



**Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)  
Environment and Natural Resources Committee  
Minutes  
Thursday, May 3, 2018**

Offices of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP)  
Lake County Conference Room  
Suite 800, 233 S. Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois

**Members Present:** Keary Cragan – U.S. EPA, Jack Darin – Illinois Sierra Club, Martha Dooley (via phone) – Village of Schaumburg, David Leopold – UI Labs, Deb Stone – Cook County Department of Environmental Control, Stacy Meyers (via phone) – Openlands, Joe Schuessler – MWRD, Sean Wiedel – Chicago Department of Transportation, Nancy Williamson – IDNR, Moira Zellner – University of Illinois-Chicago

**Members Absent:** Ed Collins – McHenry County Conservation District, Jackie Forbes – Kane County Division of Transportation, Danielle Gallet – Metropolitan Planning Council, Mike Prusilla – Lake County Stormwater Management Commission, Mike Sullivan – IDOT, Kim Wasserman-Nieto – Little Village Environmental Justice Organization

**Staff Present:** Nora Beck, Brian Daly, Kelwin Harris, Kristin Ihnchak, Jared Patton, Margaret Schneemann

**Others Present:** Emily Golla – ICF, Rich Walter (via phone) – ICF, Ross Howard – UIC CUPPA student

**1.0 Call to Order**

Jack Darin called the meeting to order at approximately 9:35 a.m.

**2.0 Agenda Changes and Announcements**

- Nora requested a reordering of the agenda items.
- The 2018 LTA and Community Planning Call for Projects is being postponed this year from the Spring to the Fall to coincide with CMAP's adoption of ON TO 2050. CMAP and the RTA are encouraging applicants to envision planning projects that align with the major goals and themes of ON TO 2050 and the RTA's Regional Transit Strategic Plan, "Invest in Transit." More information, including dates for the call, will be available soon.
  - Projects will be approved by the CMAP board in March 2019.

- CMAP staff thanked committee members for submitting written feedback by April 27 on the draft environment chapter. Staff identified organizations who submitted written feedback as well as those individuals who participated in the discussion sessions scheduled the week of April 16. Staff are currently revising the draft based on feedback and the full draft plan will be released for public comment from June 15 – August 14.
- Nancy Williamson is retiring from IDNR at the end of the month. Committee members commented that we will miss Nancy’s contributions on the committee and encouraged her to come and join us for our monthly meetings whenever she wants to!

### 3.0 Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the April 5 meeting was made by Sean Wiedel, seconded by Nancy Williamson. The motion carried with all in favor.

### 4.0 Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Inventory – Emily Golla and Rich Walter, ICF

Using this presentation, ICF’s consultant team provided an overview of the results of the 2015 regional greenhouse gas emissions inventory and presented three proposals for ON TO 2050 GHG emissions targets, as summarized in this [memo](#). The inventory and targets are still undergoing updates and review and will be finalized in the coming weeks. Committee members asked a number of clarifying questions and had the following comments:

- **Inventory**
  - **Classification of wastewater treatment emissions.** The waste of wastewater treatment is under the waste sector while the energy to run the treatment plans are under the stationary energy sector.
  - **Comparison with other regions.** The proportions of emissions by sector (Stationary energy 68%, transportation 29%, and waste 3%) are comparable to other older, northern, Midwest cities, like New York, Philadelphia, Boston. This is largely due to emissions related to heating and the higher proportion of energy coming from coal power.
- **Trends and projections**
  - **Decreasing waste emissions from 2010 to 2015.** Deb Stone has seen a flattening trend in the amount of waste generated. Hypothesis is that this isn’t due to larger behavioral shifts but instead reflects lighter packaging by manufacturers and the economic declines during this time period. Economic changes could lead to increases in the amount of waste generated.
  - **Different definitions of composting.** ICF noted that the 2010 inventory did not have this category, so the numbers presented in here are new and do not reflect a changing definition. However, the committee discussed the overall data limitations in the waste sector.
  - **Rebound effect.** Moira Zellner asked if the rebound effect, where gains in efficiency lead to more consumption, was reflected in the projections. The scenarios do not account for the rebound effect, but they show absolute emissions totals based on various rates of reduction. They are not intended to show the effects of specific policies or technological improvements, but rather, to provide an indication of the region’s general direction.

- **Add reference to carbon sequestration:** Carbon sinks, such as the urban forest and conservation areas, are not included in the inventory. The GPC protocol, used for this project, does not mix carbon sinks with emission sources and amounts. Discussion of policy implications and the co-benefits from expansion of forestry and natural areas. Generally, emissions are twice the amount that the natural land cover is taking in. Looking at the 2010 inventory estimates of sequestration, the sink of 1.6 MMTCO<sub>2e</sub> versus the overall regional inventory emissions of 119 MMTCO<sub>2e</sub> put the scale of this issue in perspective. Doubling the carbon sequestration could lead to many other co-benefits.
- **Targets**
  - **Endorsement of option 1: climate stabilization path.** Committee members strongly endorsed retaining the same target of climate stabilization (as was in GO TO 2040) for a number of reasons, including:
    - The climate stabilization path is the goal to meet; any other goal accepts defeat and that is not a way to guide the region.
    - Setting an aggressive target over a more realistic target is needed to help motivate action and for other stakeholders to use as a guide to push for action at different scales.
    - We need the plan to recognize both internal, regional actions as well as actions that need to be taken at the state and federal level.
  - **Policy implications:**
    - How do the existing policies in the plan get us to the reduction targets and where are the gaps?
    - Co-benefits of policies. Not only the conservation and urban forestry goals, but also VMT pricing and how that could not only provide transportation revenue but also help manage the rebound effect.

## 5.0 ON TO 2050 Regional Water Demand Forecast – Nora Beck, CMAP and Margaret Schneemann, IISG

With support from IDNR, CMAP and Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant are updating the regional water demand forecast for the 7 counties of northeastern Illinois using the ON TO 2050 socioeconomic forecast. The update builds on the last regional water demand forecast, included in the Water 2050 plan, and will provide a municipal-scale forecast. Referring to this presentation, Nora and Margaret provided a brief summary of the methodology and potential applications going forward. Committee members asked a number of clarifying questions and had the following comments:

- Utility managers are carefully managing their systems and due to their success, the full extent of the issue is not something that is part of public awareness.
- Utility managers are making decisions based on rules of thumb that are no longer applicable given the physical conditions in the region.
- Technological advancements and enlisting the help of private and academic partners. Recognizing the data improvements needed, staff were encouraged to document the needs to improve the information feeding into the demand forecast as well as water supply models. Committee members also recognized that the forecast values will be important and that we cannot wait for better information to be collected.

## **6.0 ON TO 2050 Public Engagement Strategy – Kelwin Harris, CMAP**

Using this presentation, Kelwin provided an update on initiatives to engage the general public and the region's corporate sector in ON TO 2050. Committee members asked a number of clarifying questions and had the following comments:

- Leading issues from the corporate stakeholder engagement: The desire for walkable communities with transit access was repeatedly identified as a leading issue by corporate stakeholders.
- Leading issues from community stakeholders: It's a diverse region, but transportation, accessibility, equity, and future economic conditions are frequently discussed.

## **7.0 Other Business.**

None.

## **8.0 Public Comment**

None.

## **9.0 Next Meeting**

The next ENR Committee is scheduled for June 7, 2018 at 9:30 am in the DuPage County conference room.

## **10.0 Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nora Beck (ENR Committee Liaison)  
May 3, 2018